

Message Text

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43

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3751

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 1226

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SECRETARY OF TREASURY

REF: STATE 39052, JIDDA 832, JIDDA 1132, STATE 37646

1. CONTROL OFFICERS MET WITH ROYAL DIWAN THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, TO DISCUSS LOGISTICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SECRETARY SIMON AND PARTY ARRIVING MID-AFTERNOON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, DEPARTING MONDAY, 0830 HOURS, MARCH 1.

2. DIRECTOR OF DIWAN ABDUL WAHAB SAID THAT SECRETARY AND MRS. SIMON AND SMALL NUMBER OF IMMEDIATE STAFF AND SENIOR ASSOCIATES, PROBABLY TOTALING 18 PERSONS, WOULD BE PROVIDED FACILITIES OR ROYAL GUEST HOUSE. REMAINDER OF DELEGATION AND PARTY WOULD BE PROVIDED HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS. DIWAN WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ROOM ASSIGNMENTS OR OTHER INFORMATION EARLIER THAN WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, SINCE THEY ARE NOW HEAVILY ENGAGED WITH VISIT OF PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT ARRIVING NEXT SATURDAY AND NOT LEAVING UNTIL THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26. EMBASSY WILL CABLE ROOM ASSIGNMENTS AS SOON AS KNOWN.

3. DIWAN SUGGESTED THAT AIR CREW WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE ACCOMMODATED AT DHAHRAN WHERE HOTEL SPACE IS AVAILABLE AND THAT AIRCRAFT WOULD HAVE TO BE FLOWN THERE. EMBASSY OFFICERS INFORMED DIWAN THAT THIS WOULD BE SATISFACTORY.

4. ROYAL DIWAN WILL BE DEVOTING A CONSIDERABLE PORTION

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OF ITS RESOURCES TO HANDLING STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT

SADAT. WAHAB APPEARED TAKEN ABACK AT PROSPECT OF LARGE NUMBERS OF PERSONNEL FROM SIMON PARTY ARRIVING AT DIFFERING TIMES. HE SAID ARRANGING FOR SEPARATE VISAS, CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE AND TRANSPORTATION, NOT TO MENTION HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS, WILL INCREASE SCOPE COMPLEXITY OF DIWAN'S SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITY. HE SAID US ACTION TO CONSOLIDATE OTHERS IN ONE PARTY WOULD BE APPRECIATED. WE URGE THAT ALL MEMBERS OF DELEGATION AND STAFF ARRIVE ON SECRETARY'S PLANE.

5. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MCFADDEN OF TREASURY AND HEARN OF COMMERCE WILL BE IN KUWAIT AND WILL JOIN PARTY IN RIYADH WE CAN ACCOMMODATE THEM.

6. TIMING OF SECRETARY'S AUDIENCES WITH KING KHALID AND PRINCE FAHD WILL BE PROVIDED SEPTEL. SCHEDULING INDICATED IN STATE 39052 SHOULD BE REGARDED AS TENTATIVE. FINANCE MINISTER WILL MEET SECRETARY SIMON AT AIRPORT.
PORTER

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